

Status - GI in Denmark 2007

FOT

The state and some municipalities has been work approximately 10 years in order to agree on establish and update a common base map for the public administration.

Since no law is dictating this project, it is based on a volunteer agreement of the partners (mainly KMS and the municipalities).

The Project is called FOT (Fælles object typer => common geographic objects)

In late 2006 a hearing between the expected future partners with the purpose to agree on a business model took place. This has lead to different kind of criticism: Disagreements of:

- cost sharing
- split between the partners in the board
- update frequency.

This again has lead to a new hearing by the start of 2007 – and a new level of positive agreement.

But the project is still voluntarily and fare from every municipality is interested to join at this moment.

INSPIRE

The coming implementation of INSPIRE is not expected to course any bigger problems in Denmark.

Kort & Matrikelstyrelsen is responsible for the implementation.

Standardization

The public administration continues to inform and to spread out good habits of use of standards. The concerns both data and interface in the increasing number of internet based services between the different units of administration and to the citizen.

Geoforum has just finished the writing of two "cookbooks". One is in the use of WFS/WMS – the other in the use of GML. These projects are financed by the public administration.

In Denmark we have a "council" called Servicefællesskabet for Geofodata. (www.xyz-data.dk)

3D city models

The number of municipalities which are providing 3D models of (part of) the mayor cities are increasing – so is use of these models.

Since some of Geoforums municipalities members in the start of 2006 requested a guide in buying and using 3D city models, Geoforum formed a group with technical persons from the biggest manufactures of 3D models and the municipalities with experience. The group is expected to present a guide to 3D city models during this summer.

The Guide will be presented at the Nordic GIS conference 2007.

Laser scanning

In 2006 two (three) companies started to establish 2 different (?) DTM + DSM as a consequence of the availability of laser scanning production method.

By the end of april 2007 KMS ordered one nationwide DTM + DSM on behalf of the all units of the state level of public administration – with an option to sell parts of it to municipalities.

Education situation

The GI relevant university educations suffers by the lack of students.

The relative few students chooses other kind of studies – maybe because heavily increased use of advertising campaigns for many studies.

Job situation

Both the public and private companies suffers by lack of educated persons.

Restructure of regions and municipalities (Kommunalreformen)

Going from 271 to 98 municipalities and from 11 counties to 5 regions

The restructuring had effect from January 1 th 2007.

It seems to have increased the competence in several knowledge areas – among those GI. Many units used to be too small to keep a proper staff and a proper level of knowledge.

Unfortunately Geoforum Denmark lost a lot of members automatically by that occasion.

Geoforum

Member situation

All 11 counties was shot down. There where all lucrative company members.

Many of their GI based tasks is moved to the municipalities.

At the same time Geoforum lost the membership of a lot of municipalities.

To reduce the economic consequences we have raised the member fees with 20 % (they have been unchanged since the start of Geoforum January 1. 2001).

At the same time we have split our personal membership fee in to two. One is our traditional fee for private persons. The other is a new fee for persons representing a municipality or a company – almost double fee according to the private person fee.

Since many of the new and bigger municipalities now holds 3 or more persons, Geoforum in many cases has been able to make the municipalities sign up as company members.

By the end of April 60 % of all municipalities are companies members and furthermore 22 persons in the other municipalities is personal company members.

Developing the members magazine

We try to develop our regular members magazine. This is done as a step by step procedure. In 6 months we have increase the number of distributed magazine from approx. 1.000 to 1.400.

Earlier companies would receive from two to eight magazine mailed directly to named persons. To day we offer the company to receive one package containing the numbers of magazines they wants.

We have lost a few personal members employed in companies where the companies now gets a package of magazines. This was expected.

The more people who are getting the magazine, the more people will read it. The more people reading it, the easier it is to get people to write and to sell advertices.

Less interest for different free arrangements

We have experienced a decreasing interest for our members to participate in free evening arrangements. We will now decrease the numbers of arrangements from 16 (shared by east and west side of Denmark) to 8-10 arrangements pr year. We will try to held these arrangements in the afternoon instead of the evening.

New President

By the end of April Peter Normann Hansen did not want to be re-elected as President of Geoforum Denmark after six years.

The General Assembly has elected Michael Israelson as new President of Geoforum.

Michael is educated as an engineer(?), and jobs on management level in both public and private companies.

To day Michael is employed at Intergraph Denmark.

Change of generation – good bye to several old key persons

Not only Peter Normann, but also a few other key persons during Geoforum Denmark's young life, has resigned from their tasks.

Henning Sten Hansen now stop as editor of our magazine "Perspektiv"